IBM Docket No. AUS9-2001-0346-US1

ABSTRACT

<u>Using a Communications Network in Arranging Shipment of Goods</u>

<u>According to a Buyer's Preferences</u>

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The present invention is a system and method for using a communications network in arranging transportation of goods according to a buyer's preferences. The invention uses a computer system and network, and may use server computers, and a buyer's client computer. The invention involves receiving a request or order to purchase goods, along with a request for shipment of the goods via a buyer's preferred delivery agency, and fulfilling the request or order by shipping said goods via said buyer's preferred delivery agency. One aspect of the present invention is a method for using a communications network in arranging shipment of goods according to a buyer's preferences. Another aspect of the present invention is a system for executing the method of the present invention. A third aspect of the present invention is as a set of instructions on a computer-usable medium, or resident in a computer system, for executing the method of the present invention.